

Fen Rivers Academy School News

Issue: 20 December 4th 2020

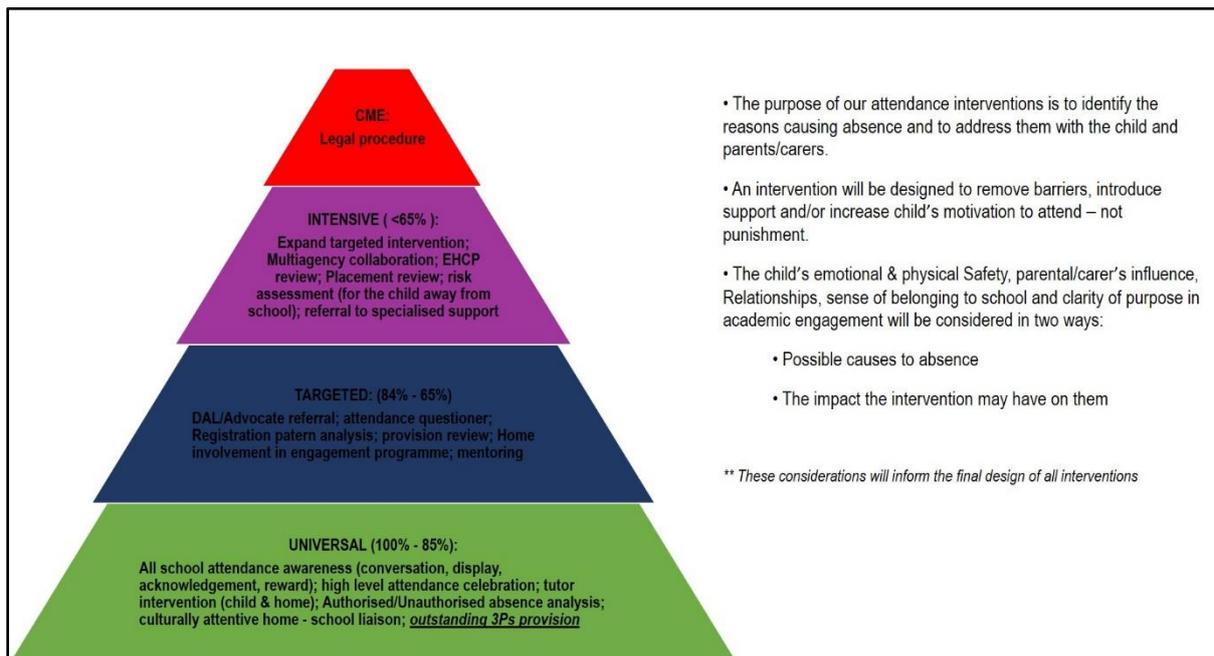
**The Fen
Rivers
Academy**

Part of The Catch22
Multi Academies Trust

Our School Improvement Focus this week: Attendance

This week we have been focusing on good school attendance. In order to get the best out of every learning opportunity children need to be at school. At The Fen Rivers Academy we are currently running four curriculums - 1. The Academic Curriculum (core lessons and national curriculum subjects); 2. The Therapeutic Curriculum - therapies and sensory input as outlined in children's individual provision maps; 3. The Recovery Curriculum - designed to bridge individual gaps and lessen the impact of the pandemic by focusing on core curriculum building blocks and non-negotiables and ensuring intervention and catch up tuition consider these and 4. The Remote Curriculum - an offsite offer for those pupils who are self-isolating. To benefit the most from this and make great progress, increasing opportunities beyond and after the end of formal schooling our young people need to attend regularly.

Our Attendance Strategy



The Fen Rivers Academy children's attendance is seen as a safeguarding concern and we endeavour to ensure all children attend full time. We want to work with parents and carers to ensure any barriers to full school attendance are removed and create a feeling of belonging and community where our young people are fully supported to learn and achieve and be the best versions of themselves. To find out more please see the school website www.fenriversacademy.org.uk/attendance-and-punctuality/

We really enjoy sharing the learning that is going on in the classrooms each week and as a staff we end each day celebrating the 'Golden Moments' of



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our day, the children's achievements, the things they've said and done that make us proud. Here are some more magic learning moments from the last week to enjoy...

Polar Bears pupils showed real team work and perseverance this week, as well as kindness, working together to make a birthday present for one of their parents. They have also worked as a team, developing social communication, as they planned and put together their new classroom reading corner and shared ideas for the books they wanted to read in it. A range of Lego challenges have also encouraged collaboration and perseverance. In Science the children have carried out investigations exploring the properties of solids, liquids and gases and drew conclusions from their findings.



Pupils in Hedgehogs Class have been learning about the Stone Age. In history lessons they used the tables to create caves in which they made their own paint and created cave paintings of their own.



The Hedgehogs children have also been working hard exploring textures as part of a sensory session during their motional time. Bath foam was explored today and in the art lesson



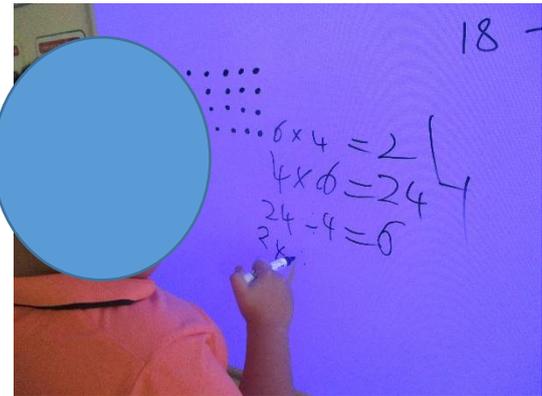
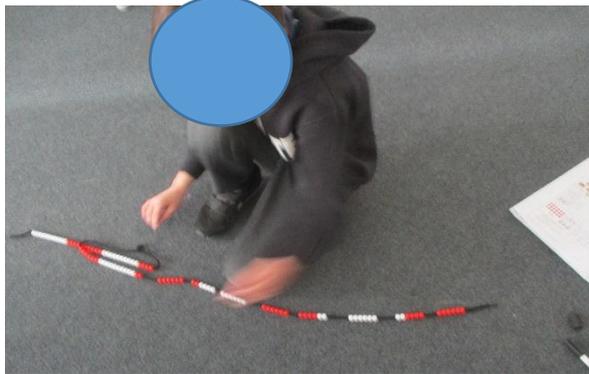
children created 3D sculptures exploring the texture of tin foil.



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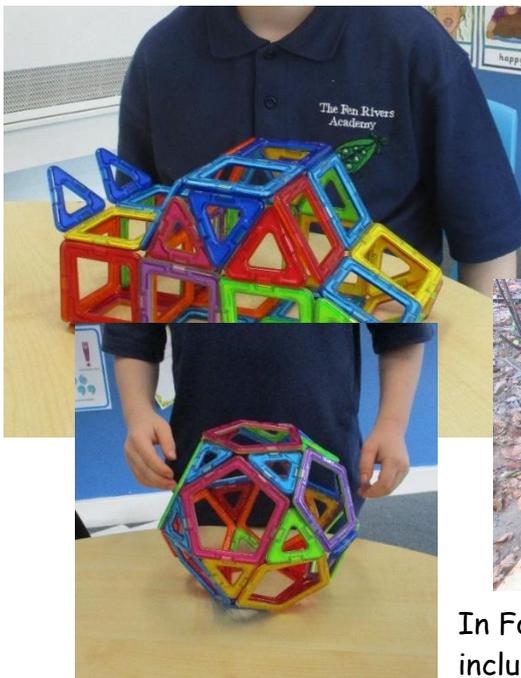
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Tigers class have been using their bead strings this week as a tool to support their multiplication. They have been multiplying and dividing by six. They also created arrays to support their conceptual understanding of multiplication. Fact families have also been explored.



Staff training this week has focused on Motional and Maths. In the Motional training session staff explored a range of ideas for developing activities in each of the personal development areas and these were then shared amongst the whole staff.

The Maths training continues to focus on how we develop children's conceptual understanding, particularly of number, and this week used Cuisenaire as a tool for supporting their learning. I look forward to showcasing work completed with the children using these resources next week.



Pupils in Elephants have been really busy problem solving in their motional sessions, working on perseverance and building structures out of magnetics. They were really proud of their achievements and of not giving up when things collapsed along the way.

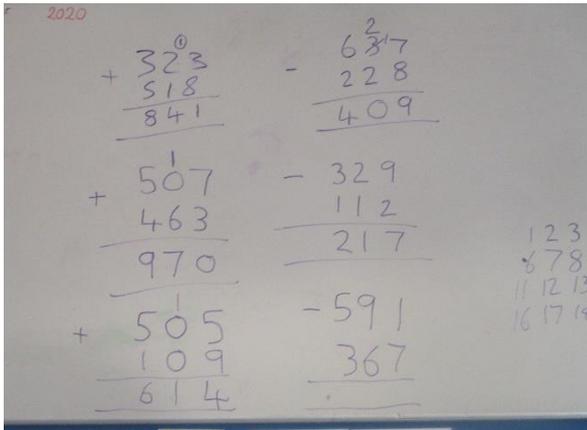


In Forest Schools children explored a range of materials, including vinegar and bicarb and created their own volcanoes

in the ground.

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In maths Elephants pupils have been using the column method, including exchanging, when practising both addition and subtraction skills this week.

This week, Koala Class have been using their bead strings to solve multiplication problems. They have enjoyed spotting patterns in their times tables.



The young people have spent time focusing on anxiety this week too; thinking about ways to express our worries and ways we can feel safe. They have made calming kits using sensory toys and built dens in the classroom. Den building has allowed us to cooperate with others, share our ideas and communicate our feelings.

Discussion skills and cooperation have been put into practise when playing team games; discussing the rules and taking turns.



Have a lovely weekend and stay safe.
Mrs Fewkes

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